

SADHU SANGA DAY AND NIGHT 1997

8-28-97 ANNADA OR AVA
EKADASI

TODAY IS THURSDAY, EKADASI, AND I HAVE JUST COMPLETED ANOTHER 4 DAY MINI-MARATHON. IT IS A MARATHON OF SORTS FOR ME BECAUSE I HAVE NOT BEEN ACTIVE IN SERVING GURU AND KRSNA FOR SOME TIME. KRSNA HAS GIVEN ME THE MERCY, THRU ANUGURU, OF REALIZING, AT LEAST PARTIALLY, THE URGENCY OF BECOMING KRSNA CONSCIOUS BEFORE I AM FORCED TO LEAVE THIS BODY OF FLESH, BONE, BLOOD, ~~HT~~ BILE AND MUCUS. ~~YOU~~ ^{PERMITTING} KRSNA ~~ALLOWING~~ ME TO MAKE ADJUSTMENT IN SPIRITUAL LIFE BY ALLOWING ~~ME~~ ^{ME} TO ATTEMPT TO SERVE HIS DEVOTEES AND ASSOCIATE WITH THEM.

AVA TO ANNADA
12ADASI 85-8

ON SUNDAY, 8-24, I WENT TO THE BKLYN TEMPLE WITH MY WIFE. ~~I~~ I WAS CHANGING INTO MY DHOTI IN THE BASEMENT BATHROOM WHEN LOCANANANDA PRABHU CAME IN. "YOU'RE IN MY SPOT, PRABHU!" HE SAID. WHILE WE BOTH CHANGED INTO DEVOTIONAL CLOTHES WE SPOKE ABOUT HARINAMA. WE BOTH AGREED THAT IT WAS ONE OF PRABHUPADA'S ORIGINAL PROGRAMS AND IT WAS EVERY DEVOTEES DUTY TO GO OUT AT THE VERY LEAST, ONCE A MONTH TO CHANT HAREKRSNA IN PUBLIC.

AT PRESENT I AM TRYING TO ORGANIZE A WEEKLY HARINAM FROM 26 2ND AV. WE WENT OUT ONCE SO FAR - TWO WEEKS AGO. ONLY A FEW

DEVOTEES CAME, BUT IT WAS A START. HE ALSO TOLD ME THAT HE WROTE A LETTER TO JAYADVATA SWAMI - BTG EDITOR - REQUESTING A BTG FOR HARINAM DISTRIBUTION CONTAINING A DIFFERENT FORMAT THAN THE PRESENT BTG. HE WOULD LIKE THE CONTENTS OF THE MAGAZINE GEARED MORE TOWARDS BASIC PREACHING. THEN PRINT JUST ONE ISSUE BUT IN A VERY LARGE QUANTITY SO IT CAN BE DISTRIBUTED CHEAPLY. HE SAID THAT, IN THE PAST, THEY DID THE SAME THING IN EUROPE. THE DEVOTEES PRINTED ABOUT ONE MILLION COPIES AND IT TOOK ABOUT A YEAR AND A HALF TO DISTRIBUTE THEM. "IN NEW YORK YOU COULD EASILY

DISTRIBUTE A MILLION BTG'S AND NOT MEET THE SAME PERSON TWICE." LATER THAT EVENING LOCANANMA PRABHU LED THE CHANTING FOR GURU-PUJA AND SUNDAR ARTIK. WHEN I SPOKE TO NRD. ON WEDNESDAY HE SAID THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM ABOUT MAKING AN ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT HARINAM AT 26 2ND ON SATURDAY. BUT THERE WAS NO ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT IT. ~~WHAT~~ WHAT CAN I DO. I HAVE TO FIND A WAY. TOMORROW IS JANMASTAMI. SO I HAVE TO HONOR A LOT OF PRASADAM TODAY ~~TO~~ TO HELP ME MAKE IT THROUGH THE ALL DAY FAST. DON'T BE A PIG. PRASADAM IS

PS-8
NOT DIFFERENT FROM KRSNA. IT IS FOR CONTROLLING THE TONGUE. IT IS NOT MUNDANE TONGUE GRATIFICATION. IT IS SPIRITUAL FOOD MEANT FOR PURIFYING THE SENSES. "PRASADAM" MEANS KRSNA'S MERCY. PRASADAM WAS BROUGHT TO US BY SRILA PRABHUPADA. JUST LIKE ON THE RADIO OR TV. THEY SAY IN COMMERCIALS "BROUGHT TO YOU BY..." OR "SPONSORED BY..." AND THEN THEY GIVE THE NAME OF THE COMPANY PAYING FOR THE COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENT. SIMILARLY PRASADAM DISTRIBUTION AROUND THE WORLD HAS BEEN "SPONSORED BY" SRILA PRABHUPADA.

8-29

^{MONDAY} I FASTED ALL DAY ~~ON~~ JANMASTAMI. IT WAS NOT DIFFICULT. I CHANTED 32 ROUNDS AND READ ABOUT KRSNA'S TRANSCENDENTAL APPEARANCE (IN KRSNA BOOK). KRSNA APPEARS OUT OF ^{HIS} CAUSELESS MERCY TO SAVE THE DEVOTEES AND TO KILL THE DEMONS. HE DOES NOT TAKE A MATERIAL BODY. HE IS NOT UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE MODES OF MATERIAL NATURE. HE APPEARED IN THE MIND OF VASUDEVA AND THEN TRANSFERRED TO THE WOMB OF DEVAKI. THERE WAS NO SEMINAL ^{DISCHARGE} ~~NECESSARY~~ AS WITH THE BIRTH OF JIVA SOULS IN THE MATERIAL WORLD. IT

WAS HIS OWN SWEET WILL AND ~~HE~~ ^{TRANSCENDENTAL} TO FULFILL THE DESIRES OF VASUDEVA AND DEVAKI TO HAVE THE LORD AS THEIR CHILD. I WENT TO BKLYN TEMPLE AFTER WORK AND HEARD LAXMI NRSIMHA PRABHU DISCUSSING KRSNA'S APPEARANCE PASTIME. AT 7 PM THERE WAS KIRTAN FOR SRI RADHA GOVINDA. THEY WERE WEARING A BEAUTIFUL FLOWER OUTFIT. I TOOK TWO PICTURES OF THEM AT THE START OF THE KIRTANA. LAXMI NRSIMHA LED THE CHANTING OF AN ECSTATIC KIRTAN AND ALL THE DEVOTEES DANCED FOR THE PLEASURE OF KRSNA ON HIS APPEARANCE DAY. ^{I noticed} ANTIMA DAS ^{was there} IN THE KIRTAN AND PARTHA BHANUR DARA ALSO CAME TO SEE THE LORD.

8-29

AFTER THE KIRTAN THERE WAS
READING FROM KRISHNA BOOK. ~~AND~~
~~MY WIFE AND I LEFT~~
AS THE READING BEGAN. I HAD TO
WORK IN THE MORNING. ~~AND SO I~~
IT WAS MY ^{GREAT} MISFORTUNE THAT I WAS
NOT ABLE TO STAY AND SEE THEIR
LORDSHIPS SRI SRI RADHA GOVINDA
WEARING THEIR WONDERFUL ^{MID} NIGHT
OUTFITS SPECIALLY MADE AND
OFFERED TO THEM WITH LOVE AND
DEVOTION.

WHEN WE GOT HOME I PUT ON
THE RAMAYANA CARTOON VIDEO
FOR MY SONS AND MY WIFE TO
WATCH. I TOOK REST SURROUNDED
BY MY FAMILY AS THEY WATCHED

LORD RAMA'S PASTIMES. I WOKE
UP WHEN THE TAPE WAS FINISHED.
IT WAS ALMOST MIDNIGHT. I WENT
BACK TO SLEEP AND WOKE UP
AGAIN AT ABOUT 12:10 AM. I
TOOK ^{A SIP OF} ~~WATER~~ WATER TO BREAK THE
JANMASTAMI FAST AND THEN
TOOK REST UNTIL 6 AM.

TUESDAY SRI VYASA PUJA -
~~H.D.G.~~ A.C. BHAKTIVEDANTA
SWAMI SRILA PRABHUPADA'S BLESSED
APPEARANCE DAY. HALF DAY FAST.
DURING MY MORNING BREAK I
~~READ ABOUT PRABHUPADA~~ ~~STARTED~~
WRITING MY HOMAGE TO OFFER AT SRILA
PRABHUPADA'S LOTUS FEET.

8-30

AT 12:30 I BROKE FAST AND HONORED
~~BANANA + BREAK~~ PRASADAM.
AFTER PRASADAM I CONTINUED WRITING
MY OFFERING.

MARIA BAKED COOKIES AND I BOUGHT
SOME BANANAS ~~WHICH~~ TO BRING TO
26 2ND AVE. ON THE TRAIN RIDE
TO MANHATTAN I COMPLETED MY VYASA
PUJA OFFERING. MARIA ALSO WROTE
AN OFFERING FOR PRABHUPADA.

AT THE TEMPLE, DAYANANDA PRABHU,
A VERY SENIOR DISCIPLE OF PRABHUPADA,
SPOKE ABOUT PRABHUPADA FIRST AND
THEN, ONE BY ONE, ALL THE BHAKTAS
PRESENT MADE VERBAL OFFERINGS OF
PRAISE FOR SRILA PRABHUPADA.

SOME DEVOTEES WERE TEARY.

EYED AND OTHERS WERE HUMOROUS.
SOME WERE BOLD IN THEIR PRAISE AND
SOME WERE EXTREMELY HUMBLE. ~~EVERYONE~~
EVERYONE WAS IN AWE OF SRILA
PRABHUPADA'S ~~MAJESTY~~ ^{LOVE AND}
KINDNESS, ~~AND THE~~ ^{THE} ~~POWER~~
POTENCY OF HIS PERSONAL ASSOCIATION.
HE COULD MELT THE COLDEST HEARTS
WITH JUST A GLANCE FROM HIS LOTUS
EYES.

8-30
THERE WAS A NICE FEAST AFTER ~~KIRTAN~~
YASOMATINANDANA PRABHU, A DISCIPLE OF
H.H. T.K.G., LED THE LIVELY CHANTING
WHILE DAYANANDA PRABHU WORSHIPPED
SRILA PRABHUPADA. THE GHEE WICKS DIDN'T
LIGHT.

WHILE HONORING PRASADAM I SPOKE WITH DATTATREYA PRABHU. HE TOLD ME HE LIKES TO PHOTOGRAPH DEITIES AND INSECTS.

I TOLD HIM SOME THINGS ABOUT PUERTO RICO'S WILDLIFE - COQUIS, LIZARDS AND THE PIG FARMS WHICH SURROUNDED THE TEMPLE WHEN I WAS LIVING THERE. I ALSO TOLD HIM ABOUT "DIVEKDAN."

WEDNESDAY I WENT TO BKLYN TEMPLE. RBD GAVE GITA CLASS. NO TIME FOR QUESTIONS. I SET UP THE PRASADAM SERVE OUT AND SERVED THE NECTAR DRINKS. THANK YOU FOR LETTING ME SERVE THE DEVOTEES.

2 MARCH MA
8-30

SOONER OR LATER, ONE HAS TO BECOME A SPIRITUAL FATHER AND STOP LOOKING UPON OTHERS AS VICTIMS FOR SENSE GRATIFICATION. WE HAVE TO SEE THE SINCERITY OF SPIRIT SOULS, WHETHER EMBODIED AS MEN OR WOMEN, AND ENCOURAGE THEIR GOOD QUALITIES."

I WENT TO 26 2ND AVE FOR HARINAMA TODAY. I WAS THE ONLY ONE. I LEFT AT 2:15.

I BOUGHT SNEAKERS FOR SHAKTI AND SOAP AFTER THE HARINAMA FOR SHAKTI.

9-2 AM DREAMS
08-8

I AM SITTING IN A TEMPLE ROOM, BEHIND AND TO THE RIGHT OF SRILA PRABHUPADA. ~~THERE ARE~~ A LARGE GROUP OF DEVOTEES ~~ARE~~ WATCHING A VIDEO ABOUT KRISHNA. ~~ON A TV IN FRONT OF~~ THE TV IS CLOSEST TO SRILA PRABHUPADA. WHILE EVERYONE IS FOCUSED ON THE VIDEO A SANNYASI DISCIPLE OF SRILA PRABHUPADA STARTS THROWING SMALL PEBBLES FROM ACROSS THE ROOM. I AM HIT WITH A FEW. I LOOK AND SEE WHO THE CULPRIT IS. HE DOESN'T STOP.

I LEAN FORWARD AND TELL SRILA PRABHUPADA THAT HIS SANNYASI IS TOSsing PEBBLES. PRABHUPADA TELLS ME THAT IT'S NOT IMPORTANT AND HE WILL DEAL

WITH IT AFTER THE VIDEO. THEN HE ASKS ME TO PLEASE TURN UP THE VOLUME ON THE TV. I MOVE FORWARD IN FRONT OF THE TV AND ADJUST THE VOLUME. ~~BEFORE~~ IT TAKES A FEW SECONDS BEFORE I ~~FIGURE~~ ^{TRY TO} FIGURE OUT THE CONTROLS AND FINALLY INCREASE THE VOLUME. I THEN SET BACK NEXT TO PRABHUPADA'S SMALL JYASASANA AND SLIGHTLY BEHIND HIM. HE HAS A LITTLE BIT OF HAIR GROWTH BUT NOT MUCH.

HE THEN LEAVES THE ROOM TO OVERSEE THE PREPARATION OF THE FEAST BECAUSE SOME DEVOTEES HAVE COME FROM THE KITCHEN AND NEED HIS GUIDANCE.

JAS

9-2 AM DREAMS
088

I AM STANDING OUTSIDE OF A TEMPLE IN THE EVENING. IT IS DARK OUTSIDE BUT ~~THE~~ THE AREA IS WELL LIT. THE TEMPLE IS A LARGE BUILDING WITH ~~AN~~ IRON WROUGHT BARS ALL AROUND THE PERIMETER. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF DEVOTEES MILLING ABOUT OUTSIDE THE ~~FENCE~~ FENCE. SOME ARE CONVERSING WITH EACH OTHER AND SOME ARE CHANTING JAPA. PEOPLE ARE GOING IN AND OUT OF THE TEMPLE BY ~~THE~~ ASCENDING AND DESCENDING THE LONG STAIRCASE AT THE ENTRANCE.

I AM AT THE CORNER ^{TO} THE LEFT, FACING THE TEMPLE. I AM CHANTING JAPA AND WATCHING THE VAIŠNAVAS AND ^{OTHER} DIFFERENT PEOPLE

GOING TO AND FRO. I NOTICE BHAKTA GUS PEÑA ON MY RIGHT TALKING IN FRONT OF A VAN THAT'S PARKED AT THE CURB, WITH SOME DEVOTEES. AFTER THE OTHER DEVOTEES LEAVE I WALK OVER TO HIM TO SAY "HARI BOZ".

WE SEE A DANDA GOING BY IN A CROWD AND OFFER OUR OBEISANCES. WE STAND UP AND ARE CHANTING JAPA AGAIN WHEN A LARGE GROUP OF PEOPLE START COMING OUT OF THE TEMPLE AND DOWN THE STAIRS. THEY ARE DRESSED IN A SORT OF ^{ANCIENT} MILITARY STYLE WITH SILVER ^{MESH} ~~AND~~ CLOTHES COVERED WITH A ^{BROAD} RED CAPE AND SILVER HELMET.

I THINK THEY ARE FROM MANIPURA AS SOME GET CLOSER TO WHERE WE

02

ARE I CAN SEE MORE CLEARLY THEIR ASIATIC FEATURES OF THEIR FACES. I LOOK PAST THEM TO THE STAIRS OF THE TEMPLE WHERE ^{HEAR} THE SOUNDS OF A COMMOTION.

A VERY LARGE, BEAUTIFUL DIETY FORM OF LADY SUBADRA IS BEING CARRIED DOWN THE STAIRS. SHE MUST BE AT LEAST 8 FEET TALL AS SHE EASILY DWARFS THE ~~THE~~ DOREN OR SO RED CAPED SERVANTS WHO ARE ^{STRAINING TO HOLD} HER.

I IMMEDIATELY FALL TO THE GROUND TO OFFER OBEISANCES. TO VAS

